

## THE UNITED KINGDOM

**Read the text about the U.K. and fill in the gaps with the words in the box. There is an extra word which you don't need to use.**



The British Isles consists of two large islands and many small ones. The largest island is Great Britain and the second largest is Ireland. Scotland, England and \_\_\_\_\_ are the countries which make up Great Britain. Ireland consists of the Republic of Ireland, which is an independent country, and Northern Ireland. Great Britain and Northern Ireland make up the United Kingdom.

The landscape of the British Isles is varied. Scotland has most mountains, but there are also mountains in northern Wales. Legends say that a giant \_\_\_\_\_ called Nessie lives in Loch Ness in this region. Northern England has some hills, but Southern England is relatively flat and suitable for \_\_\_\_\_.

Many people from the United Kingdom are descendants of Celtic migrants, Roman \_\_\_\_\_ and Viking warriors. After the end of World War II in 1945, thousands of \_\_\_\_\_ settled in the U.K. In the 1950s and 1960s, people from places that the United Kingdom once ruled as colonies —such as Jamaica, \_\_\_\_\_ and India— came to the country to work.

Today, more than 80 per cent of the people in the United Kingdom live in England. London is the capital of both England and the U.K. The capital city of Wales is Cardiff, whereas \_\_\_\_\_ is the capital city of Scotland. As regards Northern Ireland, its capital city is \_\_\_\_\_.

The U.K. is known all over the world for its sports, \_\_\_\_\_ and music. Football, rugby, cricket, boxing and golf were all invented in the United Kingdom. Also, the U.K. has produced many notable writers, including \_\_\_\_\_, Charles Dickens, and Jane Austen. Rowling, the writer of the \_\_\_\_\_ series, and Tolkien, the writer of The Lord of the Rings series, are both British. Some of Britain's most famous musicians are The Rolling Stones, The Beatles, \_\_\_\_\_ and Queen.

In 1973, the United Kingdom joined the European Union. Member countries follow certain trade, security, immigration, and \_\_\_\_\_ laws. However, some U.K. citizens didn't want to follow these laws, so the country voted to leave the EU in 2016 and officially left in 2020. The UK's departure is called \_\_\_\_\_ (Britain + exit).

In September 2022, \_\_\_\_\_ died at 96 years old after 70 years on the throne, so her son, Charles, became king. Under his reign, decolonization will likely continue —the latest country to leave the British \_\_\_\_\_ behind was Barbados in 2021.

Extra word: \_\_\_\_\_

Shakespeare	Wales	Brexit	agriculture	Queen Elizabeth II
monster	Harry Styles	Belfast	invaders	Nigeria
literature	refugees	monarchy	Harry Potter	Ireland
				environmental